GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:294
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2008
SHORTAGE OF TRAINED PILOTS
Mandal Shri Sanat Kumar;Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether India`s rapidly growing civil aviation sector is facing an acute shortage of trained pilots;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the expansion of the aviation sector is being affected as a result thereof; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a), (b), (c) and (d):- A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in the parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred () Question No. 294 for 18/12/2008 regarding `Shortage of Trained Pilots`.

(a) to (c):- No, Sir. At present there is no general shortage of pilots. However, there is a shortage of aircraft type endorsed pilots, particularly in the Commander category. The Civil Aviation Sector is facing decline in growth and almost all the airlines have significantly reduced recruitment of fresh pilots.

(d):- In order to have sufficient number of quality pilots over longer period of time the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) is being modernised through upgradation of infrastructure and acquisition of additional trainer aircraft. IGRUA has also entered into a management contract with M/s. CAE, a reputed international organisation in this field, to professionalise its management. The Government has also decided to set up a world-class institute at Gondia in Maharashtra as Joint Venture Enterprise under the aegis of Airports Authority of India. The other flying clubs in the country are also being supported by the Central Government by way of providing funds for acquisition of trainer aircraft through Directorate General of Civil Aviation and Aero Club of India.